Message Text

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FOR EB/IFD/ODF - BLANEY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EAID, OREP, TZ

SUBJECT: SEN. GRAVEL'S PAPER ON TAXATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AID

REF: STATE 9837

EMBASSY HAS NOT REPLIED DIRECTLY TO SEN. GRAVEL RE SUBJECT. OUR SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS FOR DEPT'S USE FOLLOW:

- 1. WE AGREE WITH BASIC PREMISES OF PAPER, VIZ. U.S. SHOULD INCREASE ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AID, MNC'S WOULD SEEM BE LOGICAL BASE FOR A SYSTEM OF DIRECT TAXATION TO BOOST AID LEVEL, AND ROLE OF MNC'S IN DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE EXPANDED. OUR REMARKS DIRECTED AT PROBABLE REACTION TO PROPOSAL BY TANZANIAN GOVT.
- 2. TANZANIA IS AN APPROPRIATE "RECIPIENT TEST CASE" FOR THE PROPOSAL. ONE OF POOREST COUNTRIES, ITS ECONOMY BASED ON PRIMARY AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. IT RELIES HEAVILY ON FOREIGN AID FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND DOES NOT ATTRACT NOR PARTICULARLY ENCOURAGE FOREIGN PRIVATE INVESTMENT. TANZANIA ALSO OUTSPOKEN PROPONENT OF NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. VIEWS ON NIEO ARE PROJECTIONS OF ITS SOCIALIST PHILOSOPHY BEING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IMPLEMENTED DOMESTICALLY. TANGOV REGULARLY CRITICIZES MNC'S, AID WITH STRINGS, AND THE "UNJUST INFLUENCE OF CAPITALISTIC AND EXPLOITIVE U.S." ON INTERNATIONAL FINANCE AND COMMERCE. (SEE ECON. TRENDS REPORT OF 1976 FOR FURTHER BACKGROUND.)

3. TANZANIAN WANTS ENLARGED AND AUTOMATIC TRANSFER OF RESOURCES FROM RICH TO POOR AND WOULD WELCOME DOUBLING OF

US ECONOMIC AID. IT WOULD PREFER DIRECT ALLOCATION ALONG LINES PRESIDENT NYERERE'S CONCEPT OF AN INTERNATIONAL PROGRESSIVE INCOME TAX. TANZANIA WANTS FULL CONTROL OVER ITS RESOURCES, DEVELOPMENT, AND INVESTMENT STRATEGY. IN ITS VIEW AID SHOULD CARRY NO POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS, EVEN HUMAN RIGHTS ONES. LIKE MOST COUNTRIES, TANZANIA CAN BE CRITICIZED FOR FAILING IN SOME RESPECTS TO ENSURE BASIC FREEDOMS. IN ANY EVENT, TANZANIA WOULD CLAIM THAT US ROUTINELY DISREGARDS VIOLATIONS THESE RIGHTS IN COUNTRIES PERCEIVED IMPORTANT TO US INTERESTS.

- 4. FOR REASONS MENTIONED ABOVE AND NOTED IN APPENDIX, II, TANZANIA WOULD NOT BE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT "EDUCATIONAL TRUST" ASPECT.
- 5. SOCIALSIT TANZANIA WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO SIGN, OR IF IT DID, TO HONOR "NATIONAL TREATMENT" CLAUSE DESIGNED TO PROTECT PRIVATE INVESTMENT. IT HAS NATIONALIZED MOST BUSINESSES IN COUNTRY AND IS WARY OF "NEO-COLONIALIST" SCHEMES, SUCH AS IRB, WHICH PROMOTE AND PROTECT MNC'S. THUS, TANZANIA WOULD NOT WELCOME IDEA OF A TAX REBATE FOR MNC'S WHO MAKE "QUALIFYING INVESTMENTS".
- 6. THE US RELATIONSHIP WITH TANZANIA INCLUDES POSSIBILITY OF APPLICATION OFLEGISLATED PENALTIES FOR COUNTRIES WHICH FAIL TO COMPENSATE FOR EXPROPRIATED PROPERTY. THERE WOULD APPEAR BE NO EASY SOLUTIONS TO HANDLING COMPENSATION PROBLEMS WITH COUNTRIES LIKE TANZANIA.

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7. TANZANIA FORTUNATE IN RECEIVING SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSIONAL FOREIGN AID TO DEVELOP SOCIO-ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND ITS MODEST INDUSTRIES. MNC'S COULD PROVIDE GOOD INTEGRATION OF CAPITAL, MANAGEMENT AND TECHNOLOGY TO BOOST TANZZNIA'S SLOW GROWTH IN PRODUCTIVE SECTORS. IT APPEARS, THOUGH, TANZANIA HAS CHOSEN NOT TO DRAW SIGNIFICANTLY ON THAT SOURCE. SPAIN

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